

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

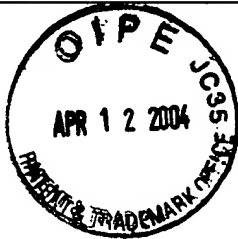
In re Application of

Thorsten DIRKS et al.

Serial No.: 09/763,086

Filed: July 27, 2001

For: Drilling Device and Method for Drilling a Well



Examiner: Stephenson, Daniel P.  
Group Art: 3672

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April 8, 2004  
(Date of Deposit)

Alfred W. Froebrich  
Name of applicant, assignee or Registered Representative

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alfred W. Froebrich".

Signature  
April 8, 2004  
Date of Signature

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO 1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed. EP 0 379 187 was previously filed in an Information Disclosure Statement filed with the application on July 27, 2001. A copy of a communication from the Norwegian Patent Office citing the listed documents is also included.

This information is being submitted after issuance of a Final Office Action on the merits, or after issuance of a Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee.

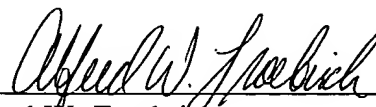
In accordance with 37 C.F.R §§1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b),

or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be placed in the file in the USPTO records for this application under 37 CFR 1.98(i).

Respectfully submitted,  
COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By:

  
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Dated: April 8, 2004

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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/763,086
		Filing Date	July 27, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Thorsten DIRKS
		Art Unit	3672
		Examiner Name	Stephenson, Daniel P.
		Attorney Docket Number	3457-66PUS
Sheet	1	of	1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind-Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	US-3,961,673	06/8/1976	Wolters et al.	All
	AB	US-4,899,832	02/13/1990	Bierscheid, Jr.	All
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind-Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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